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## Chile

## **Solid Wood Products**

## **Annual**

### 2003

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#### Report Highlights:

Chile's forest production will continue to increase as more trees are reaching harvesting age. Exports also are expected to grow both in volume and in value in 2003, as prices for some forest products are rising again.

Includes PSD Changes: Yes Includes Trade Matrix: Yes Annual Report Santiago [CI1]

[CI]

#### **Table of Contents**

Executive Summary	3
Forest Situation	
Table 1 – Annual Coniferous Growth Rate	3
Table 2 – Total Chilean Radiata Pine and Eucalyptus Planting	4
Table 3 – Radiata Pine: Distribution by Age.	
Table 4 – Strategic Indicator Table: Forest Area	5
Forest Subsidy Program	6
Table 5 – DL 701 Payment Summary	6
Table 6 – Strategic Indicator Table: Wood Product Subsidies	7
Trade Policy	8
Forest Production	8
Table 7 – Log Production	9
Forestry Trade	9
Exports	9
Table 8 – Forestry Exports by Destination	
Table 9 – Forest Product Exports by Major Commodity	
Imports	
Table 10 – Forest Product Tariffs for Countries with Trade Agreements	
Table 11 – Strategic Indicator Table: Product Tariffs and Taxes	
Wood Chips	
Table 12 – Chile's Wood Chip Production.	
Table 13 – Wood Chip Exports for 2002	
PS&D Table.	
Export trade Matrix	
Softwood Logs	
Table 14 – Average Softwood Log Prices.	
PS&D Table	
Export Trade Matrix	17
Softwood Lumber	
Table 15 – Average Softwood Lumber Prices.	
PS&D Table	
Export Trade Matrix	19

#### **Executive Summary**

Total output of Chile's forest sector grew again in 2002. The area devoted to commercial forestry expanded by over 36,000 hectares. Exports increased from \$2.21 billion in 2001 to \$2.30 billion in 2002.

For 2003, both the volume and value of total forest product exports is expected to grow, as prices for some products like lumber are coming back.

Development of Chile's forest products sector has occurred mainly through expanded commercial planting, with excellent adaptation of radiata pine and eucalyptus. Future growth will as a result of developing the relatively untouched and unmanaged native forests in southern Chile. However, this is contingent on the proposed native forest legislation, which has been stalled for several years.

#### **Forest Situation**

There are three main forestry production areas in Chile: 1) the area between Regions VI (Rancagua) and VIII (Concepcion) where radiata pine and eucalyptus are predominant; 2) Regions IX (Temuco) and X (Osorno/Puerto Montt) which contain both native forests and plantations (radiata and, more recently, eucalyptus); and 3) Chile's extreme southern Regions (XI and XII), which contain mostly native forests (lenga).

In CY2002, total planted area increased only by 36,258 hectares, while in the early nineties the total planted area increased by over 95,000 hectares annually. Industry sources indicate that the slowdown in planting is due to a number of factors, including less favorable planting and tax incentives in the new forestry law (DL 701), the high cost of land relative to neighboring countries, and the disruptive activities of ecologists. Nevertheless, total forest production will continue to expand as private tree farms reach harvest able age.

Chile's development of an important forest products sector is due to a great degree on the success of the radiata pine. The radiata matures in 20-24 years in Chile (with thinning available for use after just 15 years), compared to 30 years in New Zealand and Australia, and 40-60 years in North America and Europe. Since the pine grows so quickly in Chile, the wood is very soft.

Table 1 - Annual Coniferous Growth Rate.

Annual Coniferous Growth Rate		
Country	Growth Rate (M3/ha/yr)	
Chile	24.0	
New Zealand	20.0	
United States	3.0	
Sweden	2.9	
Canada	2.2	

Table 2 - Total Chilean Radiata Pine and Eucalyptus Planting.

Total Chilean Radiata Pine and Eucalyptus Planting December 2002 (In Hectares)			
Region	Eucalyptus	Radiata Pine	
I (Northern border)	227	1	
П	2	-	
Ш	1,127	1	
IV	1,813	6	
V	42,102	15,137	
Metropolitan	11,124	1,002	
VI	29,117	68,864	
VII	21,479	378,680	
VIII	135,037	648,841	
IX	85,125	272,255	
Х	60,822	128,218	
XI	-	-	
Total *	387,975	1,513,004	
* Limited planting exists in Regions XI and XII			
Source: Chile's Forestry	y Institute (INFOR)	)	

Table 3 – Radiata Pine: Distribution by Age.

Radiata Pine: Distribution by Age (Hectares)					
Age in Years	1965	1980	1990	2000	2002
0-5	19,663	303,994	325,626	433,861	426,482
6-10	52,612	192,220	344,426	276,435	288,330
11-15	86,233	76,959	369,240	319,025	308,573
16-20	69,858	51,974	142,772	297,982	319,798
21-25	27,003	44,655	40,307	120,231	147,630
26-30	4,395	33,898	10,363	17,742	13,600
31 or more	921	13,239	9,365	8,841	8,585
Source: Chile's Forestry Institute (INFOR)					

Eucalyptus is the second largest planted species in Chile. Planting has increased at a more rapid pace than for radiata during the last few years. Eucalyptus products command higher prices and can be harvested even sooner than radiata pine. By December 2002, almost 388,000 hectares had been planted. Eucalyptus has great potential in Chile since it can be

harvested after only 10 to 15 years. The growth capacity for Eucalyptus is up to 30 CUM per hectare per year.

Present estimates put total native forests at 13.4 million hectares. According to industry, of this total, an estimated 7.1 million hectares are considered to be productive. The exploitation of the mostly over-mature native forest consists primarily in selective cutting, mainly wood for chip production. Chilean native forests possess numerous tree species that have no known European or North American counterpart.

Table 4 - Strategic Indicator Table: Forest Area

STRATEGIC INDICATOR TABLE: FOREST AREA (mil	lion hectares/milli	on cum)	
Country: CHILE	Previous	Current	Next
Report Year: 2003	Calendar Year	Calendar Year	Calendar Year
Total Land Area	75.7	75.7	75.7
Total Forest Area	15.7	15.7	15.7
of which, Commercial	2	2	2
of commercial, tropical hardwood	0		
of commercial, temperate hardwood	0		
of commercial, softwood	1.5	1.6	1.7
of forest area, non-commercial			
Forest Type			
Of which, virgin	13.5	13.5	13.5
Of which, plantation	2	2	2
Of which, other commercial (regrowth)	n/i	n/i	n/i
Forest Ownership			
Nationally owned and no commercial access	8.7	8.7	8.7
Nationally owned, commercial logging permitted	5.4	5.4	5.4
Other publicly owned land, no commercial access	n/i	n/i	n/i
Other publicly owned, logging permitted	n/i	n/i	n/i
Privately owned commercial forest	n/i	n/i	n/i
Total Volume of Standing Timber			
Of which, Commercial Timber	168.2	178.2	186.9
Annual Timber Removal 1/	24.4	24.6	24.9
Annual Timber Growth Rate	29.8	29.8	29.7
Annual Allowable Cut	n/i	n/i	n/i
1/ If Removals exceeds growth rate, analyze impac	t in text.		

#### **Forest Subsidy Program**

Law Decree (DL) 701, which is mainly designed to assist small farmers now, subsidizes planting costs by as much as 90 percent for the first 15 hectares, but only 75 percent of plantings thereafter. It also subsidizes 15 percent of the planting costs for larger farmers, when they plant land that has been severely eroded or land that can only be used for reforestation. A maximum of \$15 million dollars yearly is destined for this purpose. Special land tax exemptions are also part of the program. During 2002, over 27,000 hectares qualified for the planting subsidy, with payments totaling \$10.4 million. There are no subsidies for trimming and forest management. During the life of this program, from 1974 to the end of 2002, the Chilean government has paid \$221 million in subsidies.

Table 5 - DL 701 Payment Summary.

DL - 701 Payment Summary					
	Subs	Area Subsidized (Hectares)			
	Period Total To				
Trimming	1983-02	12.7	407,397		
Management	1978-02	28.2	7,108,259		
Reforestation	1976-02 180.5 1,092,88				
Source: Chile's Forestry Institute (INFOR).					

A "new" proposal, called "Law for the Recovery and Promotion of the Native Forest" has been sitting in Congress since 1992. The bill has gone through lengthy discussions and still has not been approved, mainly due to differing views among the various government agencies involved. This law is expected to provide a framework for the sustainable management of Chile's extensive native forests. Industry sources indicate that the signing of FTA's and the increasing environmental protection actions taken by forestry product importers will force the Chilean government to legislate in this matter.

Table 6 - Strategic Indicator Table: Wood Product Subsidies.

STRATEGIC INDICATOR TABLE: WOOD PRODUCTS	SUBSIDIES		
Country: CHILE	Previous	Current	Next
Year of Report 2002	Calendar Year	Calendar Year	Calendar Year
Total Solid Wood Export Subsidy Outlay (\$US million)	0	0	0
Is there a ban on the export of logs, lumber, or veneer? If yes, which?	No	No	No
Are there export taxes (yes/no)? 1/	No	No	No
If yes, for which products? (Identify export tax level in tariff table)			
Source(s) of Export Subsidy Information			
Total Wood Production Subsidy Outlay (\$US million)			
Are there any programs favoring the development of commercial forestry?	Planting subsidy	Planting subsidy	Planting subsidy
If yes, Post best estimate of scope (thousands of hectares)	21.9	27.6	25.1
If yes, Post's best estimate of financial outlay (\$US million)	7.1	10.4	8.2
Source(s) of Production Subsidy Information	INFOR	INFOR	INFOR
Does the country support export expansion activities similar to the Cooperator Program?	No	No	No
Which country markets are targeted?			
Which products are targeted?			
Are there significant wood products export expansion activities at the provincial or regional level?	No	No	No
If yes, identify key players			
If yes, identify key market segments			
If yes, identify key country markets			
If yes, identify key products			
Post's estimate for combined outlay (\$US million)			
Source(s) of Provincial/Regional Support Information			
	Yes	Yes	Yes

 $<sup>\</sup>underline{1}$ / Prochile has marketing promotion activity directed to all sectors. But not widely used by forestry sector. See Competitors Report.

#### Trade Policy

Chile has signed trade agreements with many countries, among them Mexico, Canada and Mercosur. These are not Chile's most important forest products trading partners. Presently, Chile has a zero duty agreement with Canada and Mexico for both exports and imports, and reduced duties with Mercosur depending on the product. For all other countries, Chile import duty fell to a permanent level of 6 percent starting January of 2003.

Chile's FTA signed with the EU is not expected translate into significant increases in exports to this market. Exports to the EU have been following the ups and downs of wood pulp prices, as over 70 percent of Chile's forestry product exports to the EU correspond to this product which had a 0 duty before the agreement.

Chile's congress also finally approved the FTA agreement with the United States, which will be implemented in January 2004. Despite the fact that exports of forestry products to the US have increased without the free trade agreement accord, the forestry industry expects the agreement will boost the economy in general, and therefore benefit forest product exports. However, even before the agreement, most of Chile's forest products faced a zero tariff.

Chile's agreement signed with South Korea will not change substantially the tariff schedule for Chilean exports. Most forest products, which face a 5 to 8 percent tariff, will have a 5 to 10 year face in for the tariff elimination. It is still undetermined when this agreement will be implemented, as it still has to be approved by both the Chilean and Korean congress and is currently facing strong opposition in Korea.

#### **Forest Production**

Total log production fell slightly (less than 1 percent) to 37.6 billion CUM in 2002, down from 37.8 billion in 2001. A slowdown in the world and the Chilean economy is blamed for this first downturn in a constant expansion over the last two decades. For 2003, production is expected to grow again, as tree farms reach maturity and are harvested. Industry expects a slight but positive increase in demand for higher value added forest products.

Around 68 percent of Round wood output is used by the forestry industry. The remainder is used for firewood. Commercial utilization of Round wood includes pulp, wood chips, sawn wood and lumber production. At least one half of Chile's population uses firewood in their homes for heating and cooking purposes.

Tree farm thinning is the main source of Round wood for pulp logs. Wood chips are mainly a by-product of sawmill operations.

Table 7 - Log Production

Chile: Log Production				
	Forest Area (Thousand Ha.)		Log Harvest (1,000 M3)	
	Planted	Native		
1995	1,818	7,493	34,956	
1996	1,836	7,123	33,388	
1997	1,882	7,123	34,056	
1998	1,914	7,123	31,672	
1999	1,952	7,123	33,972	
2000	1,989	13,404	36,568	
2001	2,037	13,404	37,790	
2002	2,074	13,404	37,575	
Source: Chile's Forestry Institute (INFOR)				

Source: Chile's Forestry Institute (INFOR)

#### **Forestry Trade**

#### **Exports**

In 2002, Chile's forest product exports totaled \$2.40 billion, up from \$2.21 billion the year before. Industry sources believe that this increase in exports is remarkable considering the difficulties observed in the world economy. Although global economic recovery is still uncertain, the forest industry forecasting a further expansion to \$2.4 billion in 2003.

The U.S. was again Chile's largest export market in 2002, accounting for 27 percent of total exports, followed by Japan with close to 10 percent of total exports.

Table 8 – Forestry Exports by Destination

Chile's Forestry Export by Destination (US\$ Million, FOB)				
Country	2000	2001	2002	
United States	466.6	512.0	622.1	
Japan	302.2	274.7	222.7	
China	144.9	241.0	219.3	
Mexico	64.2	94.6	152.8	
Italy	152.8	91.4	108.2	
South Korea	90.3	75.2	87.6	
Peru	78.5	83.5	84.7	
Others	1,065.7	833.2	803.7	
Total Exports	2,365.2	2,205.6	2301.1	
Source: Chile's Forestry Institute (INFOR).				

Table 9 - Forest Product Exports by Major Commodity.

Chile's Forest Product Export by Major Commodity (US\$ Million, FOB)				
Commodity/Product	2000	2001	2002	
Sawn wood	189.7	178.8	207.3	
Wood Chips	133.7	148.1	122.6	
Plywood and Boards	123.8	144.6	166.2	
Round wood Logs	35.8	26.3	24.6	
Other	667.6	733.6	869.8	
Total Forest Product Exports	1150.6	1,231.9	1,390.5	
Wood Pulp	1,110.4	863.2	821.8	
Newsprint	104.1	110.5	88.8	
Total Forest Sector Exports	2,365.2	2,205.6	2,301.1	
Source: Chile's Forestry Institute (	(INFOR).			

#### **Imports**

Chile's forest product imports totaled \$531 million in 2002, up from \$521 million in 2001. For 2003, imports are not expected to expand significantly, as the economic recovery and consequently growth in construction is still uncertain.

Chile has an across the board import duty of 6 percent. Additionally Chile has signed free trade agreements with several countries, among them: Mexico Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador. All wood product imports from these countries are duty free. Similarly most forest product imports from MERCOSUR member countries are duty free with the exception of the products detailed in the following table.

Table 10 – Forest Product Tariffs for Countries with Trade Agreements.

FOREST PRODUCT TARIF	FS (PERCENT)	
Country: CHILE; Report \	/ear 2003.	
	MERO	COSUR
	Current Year	Next Year
4402.0000	0.9	0.42
4403.9990	0.9	0.42
4407.1090	0.9	0.42
4407.2400	0.0	0.00
4407.2900	0.0	0.00
4407.9100	0.0	0.00
4407.9990	0.9	0.42
4408.1090	0.9	0.42
4408.3900	0.9	0.42
4408.9010	0.9	0.42
4408.9090	0.7	0.00
4409.1090	0.9	0.42
4409.2000	0.7	0.00
4410.1900	1.8	1.20
4411.1100	0.9	0.42
4411.1900	1.8	1.20
4412.1300	0.9	0.42
4412.1400	0.9	0.42
4412.1910	0.9	0.42
4412.1990	0.7	0.00
4412.2900	0.9	0.42
4412.9990	0.7	0.00
4415.1000	0.9	0.42
4415.2000	1.1	0.00
4417.0000	0.9	0.42
4418.2000	1.8	1.20
4418.3000	0.9	0.42
4418.4000	0.9	0.42
4418.9000	0.9	0.42
4419.0000	0.9	0.42
4412.1000	0.9	0.42
4421.9010	0.9	0.42
4421.9090	0.9	0.42
Source: Ministry of Agric	ulture (ODEPA)	

Table 11 - Strategic Indicator Table: Product Tariffs and Taxes.

Country: CHILE		T 100	T 166	0.11	· ·	-
Report Year: [ 2003	Description 1/	Tariff Current Year	Tariff Following Year	Other Import Taxes/Fees	Total Cost of Import	Export Tax
4401		6	6	0	6	0
4403		6	6	0	6	0
4404		6	6	0	6	0
4405		6	6	0	6	0
4406		6	6	0	6	0
4407		6	6	0	6	0
4408		6	6	0	6	0
4409		6	6	0	6	0
4410		6	6	0	6	0
4411		6	6	0	6	0
4412		6	6	0	6	0
4413		6	6	0	6	0
4414		6	6	0	6	0
4415		6	6	0	6	0
4416		6	6	0	6	0
4417		6	6	0	6	0
4418		6	6	0	6	0
4419		6	6	0	6	0
4420		6	6	0	6	0
4421		6	6	0	6	0
4422		6	6	0	6	0
4423		6	6	0	6	0
4424		6	6	0	6	0
4425		6	6	0	6	0
Pre-fabricated Hous subsection under ch		6	6	0	6	0

#### **Wood Chips**

Wood chip output in 2002 was smaller than expected. The Japanese economic, together with depressed wood pulp prices and slightly reduced activity in the forestry industry in Chile resulted in less production of wood chips. For 2003, industry sources expect production and exports to grow again. Although there are no definite signs that the Japanese economy is recuperating, export to that country have increased significantly during the first half of CY2003, when compared to the same period last year. Additionally, more eucalyptus trees are ready for harvest so output of eucalyptus wood chips is expected to increase. Already there are reports that demand from Japan, Chile's only constant and significant export market for wood chips, is increasing.

Table 12 - Chile's Wood Chip Production.

Chile's Wood Chip Production (In Thousand Metric Tons)					
Year	Total	Radiata Pine	Native	Eucalyptus	
1996	4,996	2,373	1,757	857	
1997	4,926	2,199	1,791	935	
1998	4,487	2,031	1,338	1,112	
1999	4,837	2,241	1,016	1,544	
2000 5,091 2,380 719 1,968					
2001	5,257	2,372	386	2,464	
2002	5,057	2,527	156	2,375	
Source: Chile's Forestry Institute					

Chile has a large number of chipping facilities with widely varying capacities. Most facilities are located in Region VIII (Concepcion). Over 50 percent of Chile's wood chip production is exported and all of it goes to Japan's paper and pulp industries.

Table 13 – Wood Chip Exports for 2002.

Chile's Wood Chip exports for 2002						
Туре	Volume Thousand MT	Value Million US\$	Unit Value US\$/MT			
Radiata Pine	94.1	2.5	27			
Eucalyptus	2,352.2	117.0	50			
Native Forest	105.6	3.1	29			
Total	2,551.9	122.6				
Source: Chile's Forestry Institute (INFOR)						

PS&D Table.

Country	Chile						
Commodity	Wood (	Chips		(1000 MT)			
	2002	Revised	2003	Estimate	2004	Forecast	
	USDA Official	Estimate [IIA	A Official	Estimate [IIA	Official	Estimate [I	
Market Year B	egin	01/2002		01/2003		01/2004	
Production	5250	5057	5300	5280	0	5545	
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL SUPPLY	5250	5057	5300	5280	0	5545	
Exports	2890	2552	2890	2915	0	2950	
Domestic Consumpt	tion 2360	2505	2410	2365	0	2595	
TOTAL DISTRIBUT	ION 5250	5057	5300	5280	0	5545	

## **Export trade Matrix**

Country	Chile						
Commodit Wood Chips							
Time Period	Jan-Dec	Units:	M.T.				
Exports for:	2001		2002				
U.S.	0	U.S.	0				
Others		Others					
Japan	2893716		2512050				
		Spain	39831				
Total for Others	2002716		2551001				
		1	2551881				
Others not Liste			0554004				
Grand Total	2893716		2551881				

#### **Softwood Logs**

Total softwood log production grew again in 2002. In 2003, expansion will most likely continue as a larger number of trees are going to be available for harvest, but at a slower rate than in the past, as export demand, mainly of softwood logs for lumber fell almost to zero. In the past almost all soft wood log for lumber was exported to South Korea, with occasional exports to the US (Puerto Rico). Industry sources indicate that Chile lost the South Korean market to New Zealand as a result of the economic crisis that affected most Asian countries. A devaluation of the currency in New Zealand together with increasing transportation costs have been playing against Chilean exporters. As soft wood logs for pulp are exported only to Japan, future exports are tied to the recovery of the Japanese economy.

Table 14 – Average Softwood Log Prices.

Average Softwood Log Prices (US\$ per CUM)								
1980 1990 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002								
Export	54	49	62	52	49	46	48	47
Domestic         18         33         42         39         35         37         31         28								
CH\$/US\$ 39.0 304.9 419.3 460.0 508.9 539.5 634.9 688.9								
Source: Chile's Forestry Institute (INFOR)								

#### **PS&D Table**

Country	Chile					
Commodity	Softwo	od Logs			1000 CUB	IC METER
_	2002	Revised	2003	Estimate	2004	Forecast
	USDA Official	Estimate [IIA	Official	Estimate [	A Official	Estimate [I
Market Year B	egin	01/2002		01/2003		01/2004
Production	13200	13908	13600	14400	0	15500
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	13200	13908	13600	14400	0	15500
Exports	190	276	210	185	0	180
Domestic Consumpt	tion 13010	13632	13390	14215	0	15320
TOTAL DISTRIBUT	ION 13200	13908	13600	14400	0	15500

## **Export Trade Matrix**

## **Country** Chile

	Commod	ditySoftwoo	d Logs
--	--------	-------------	--------

Time Period	Jan-Dec	Units:	M.T.
Exports for:	2001		2002
U.S.	1290	U.S.	6050
Others		Others	
Japan	117745	Japan	136944
So. Korea	29948	So. Korea	132978
Kurdistan	5011	Spain	24
U.A. Emirate	2306		
China	25		
Total for Others	155035	•	269946
Others not Listed	0		0
Grand Total	156325	-	275996

#### **Softwood Lumber**

Although declining in importance relative to other sectors in the forest industry, saw milling is still the single largest consumer of logs, with pine logs making up close to 80 percent of total inputs. Close to a third of the lumber produced is exported. This is mostly the output from the larger sawmills. The remaining two-thirds is consumed locally. Production of softwood lumber is expected to keep growing in the next few years. But exports are not expected to grow at the same rate, as the industry is trying to add value to its output by increasing its exports of manufactured wood products. However, in the long term, exports of softwood lumber will rise as the availability of knot-free lumber increases. The increased availability of knot-free lumber is attributed to subsidized pruning and forest management under DL 701, until the late nineties.

Softwood lumber expanded again in 2002, compared to the previous year, as a result of strong foreign demand. For 2003 and 2004, production is expected to increase as the availability of mature trees increases and investment in new milling facilities materialize.

Table 15 – Average Softwood Lumber Prices.

Average Softwood Lumber Prices (US\$/CUM)								
	1980	1990	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Export	113	126	172	146	136	137	127	129
Domestic	76	55	100	90	80	76	61	57
CH\$/US\$	39.0	304.9	419.3	460.0	508.9	539.5	634.9	688.9

Source: Chile's Forestry Institute (INFOR).

#### PS&D Table

Country	Chile
Commodity	Softwood Lumber

Commodity	Softwo	1	000 CUBI	C METER		
_	2002	Revised	2003	Estimate	2004	Forecast
l	JSDA Official	Estimate [IIA	Official	Estimate []/	A Official	Estimate [I
Market Year Be	gin	01/2002		01/2003		01/2004
Production	6140	6193	6400	7347	0	8400
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	6140	6193	6400	7347	0	8400
Exports	1940	2057	2000	2880	0	3310
Domestic Consumption	on 4200	4136	4400	4467	0	5090
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	ON 6140	6193	6400	7347	0	8400

## **Export Trade Matrix**

## **Country** Chile

## Commodit Softwood Lumber

Time Period	Jan-Dec	Units:	M.T.
Exports for:	2001		2002
U.S.	358224	U.S.	418712
Others		Others	
Japan	417280	Mexico	398964
Mexico	214376	Japan	349179
Saudi Arabia	174611	Saudi Arabia	171922
UA Emirates	119853	AU Emirates	145316
Morocco	57250	Taiwan	81796
Dom.Republic	44597	Spain	74658
Egypt	42079	China	69643
Taiwan	41898	Morocco	52241
Spain	41074	So. Korea	40363
So. Korea	38825	Costa Rica	30577
Total for Others	1191843		1414659
Others not Liste	217331		223874
Grand Total	1767398		2057245